



**Our current project is quite complex and...
I am very impressed with the quality of the
people involved and the excellent teamwork
demonstrated.**



Customer Focus

Company:

United Utilities

What they do:

UU own and operate electricity, wastewater and water networks in north west England and operate utility infrastructure for customers throughout the UK and overseas

Project title:

Positional Accuracy Improvement

The project:

To re-align United Utilities' electricity, clean water and waste water distribution networks in respect of the Ordnance Survey's Positional Accuracy Improvement (PAI) programme

Project : Positional Accuracy Improvement



Cad-Capture has been awarded a one year contract to re-align United Utilities' electricity, clean water and waste water distribution networks in respect of the Ordnance Survey's Positional Accuracy Improvement (PAI) programme.

Completed on 31st March 2006, the Ordnance Survey's PAI programme was developed to enable the capture of 1:2500 data to a greater absolute accuracy, resulting in an improved and more consistent accuracy standard of mapping for rural and semi-rural areas.

The impact of this programme is considerable, creating varying and inconsistent shifts, requiring Government Agencies, Utilities and Local Authorities etc to re-align digital assets or features currently referenced to pre-PAI background mapping.

For example, in the case of a Utility, cables or pipes located underneath a pavement may appear to move to the middle of a road or to cross garden areas as a result of post-PAI mapping data being shifted by several meters. With the increasing use of GPS positioning for surveying, Utilities are compelled to ensure that data sets are accurate as well as consistent with those utilised by stakeholders and other organisations in order to comply with regulatory requirements, improve safety standards and reduce the likelihood of an incident, as well as reduce operating costs etc.

One of the largest PAI contracts awarded by a UK Utility to date, the services associated with the re-alignment of United Utilities' electricity, clean water and waste water distribution networks are delivered via Cad-Capture's offshore data centre located near Shanghai in Suzhou, China. Wholly owned and operated by Cad-Capture, the offshore data centre emulates Cad-Capture's UK services operation, providing high quality CAD and GIS related services. This means that Cad-Capture is able offer all the benefits of dealing with a respected UK specialist, but at extremely attractive offshore rates.

The team assigned to this contract comprises highly qualified Data Engineers and a Senior Project Controller, with responsibility for day to day management of the project, ensuring that target deadlines are met and exacting standards are maintained throughout the project lifecycle.



Data is re-aligned on a batch basis in accordance with a planned programme schedule, enabling forward planning and control of data maintenance services by United Utilities as batches are checked out

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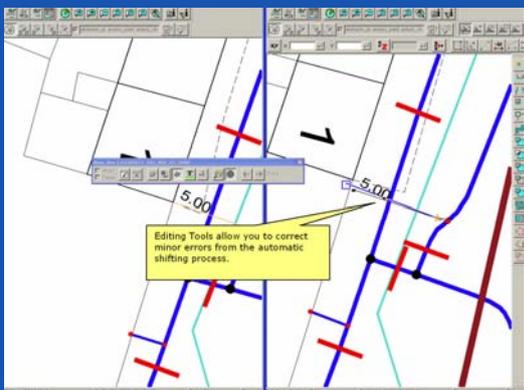
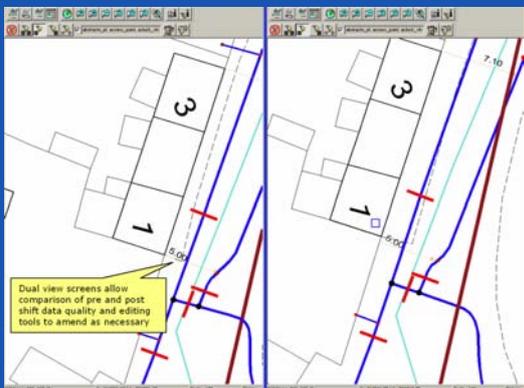
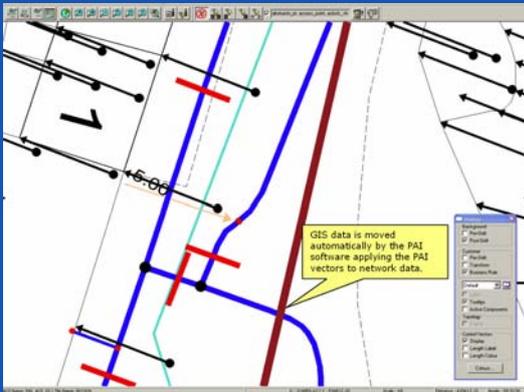
Customer Focus

Cad-Capture was required to implement its expertise in:

- 1) GIS
- 2) Quality Assurance
- 3) Document Management

Project Overview:

The project is underway and all expectations have been exceeded. The project on track to be completed in early 2008.



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of the GIS environment for processing. To achieve an optimum balance in respect of quality and efficiency, a semi-automated approach to re-alignment has been taken, the first stage of which is to automatically shift the network data in accordance with business rules defined by United Utilities and the control vector link files provided by the Ordnance Survey, defining the precise shift patterns for each map tile affected with before and after coordinate positions of points on the map tile as well as the feature code of the feature to which the link relates.

APIC-Shift software from vendor STAR-APIC was selected as an efficient and cost-effective solution for the automated shift.

Having performed the shift, the software is configured to highlight areas of the network which may require the attention of a Data Engineer in accordance with the business rules agreed. The Data Engineer is then responsible for either accepting the changes made or making manual modifications as appropriate. Any changes made by a Data Engineer are recorded by the APIC-Shift software, providing a complete audit trail which can be used for reporting purposes.

Once re-aligned, each batch is then subject to a series of quality checks prior to release to United Utilities. In this regard, each batch is organised into a number of sub-grids and checked on a grid-by-grid basis.

As utilised on previous other data capture and conversion projects undertaken for United Utilities, Cad-Capture has implemented an Electronic Document Management and Workflow System (EDMS) to facilitate effective communication during the project lifecycle.

Based on market leading technologies from Open Text's LiveLink ECM eDOCS™ content management platform, the system provides a centralised and secure environment for organising, managing and accessing project related information. Hosted by Cad-Capture for the duration of the contract, the EDMS enables up-to-date accurate information to be readily

obtained regardless of geographic location or time zone and is used to manage and communicate Problem Resolution Queries (PRQs) raised during the contract. As the first 'port-of-call' for project team members with a query, this knowledge base acts to improve efficiency and consistency by preventing duplicate questions being raised by different team members.

"As a result of this and other projects undertaken, Cad-Capture has developed extensive knowledge of distribution network modelling and has proven expertise in the set-up and training of specialist project teams", said Simon Watts, Managing Director of Cad-Capture. "Once again, we are delighted to further extend the scope of services provided to United Utilities".

Brian O'Neill, Projects and Data Manager at United Utilities said, "United Utilities has successfully utilised Cad-Capture UK services on a number of utility GIS data projects and I am pleased that their initiative in developing offshore services in China has enabled them to successfully tender and compete with our other onshore and offshore options. Our current project is quite complex and involves electricity, clean water and waste water networks and having been directly involved in the training of the China team offshore I am very impressed with the quality of the people involved and the excellent teamwork demonstrated".



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